

Message Text

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70

ACTION AF-06

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FM AMCONSUL LOURENCO MWRQUES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3877

INFO AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION USUN NY

AMEMBASSY LONDON

UNCLAS LOURENCO MARQUES 1001

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDIP, PFOR, TZ, MZ

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT NYERERE'S STATE VISIT TO MOZAMBIQUE

REF: LOURENCO MARQUES 956; LOURENCO MARQUES 978

1. THE STATE VISIT OF PRESIDENT NYERERE TO MOBAMBIQUE WAS THE BIGGEST EVENT SINCE INDEPENDENCE, AND THE GPRM PULLED OUT ALL STOPS TO MAKE IT A MOMENTOUS OCCASION. A FEW DAYS BEFORE NYERERE'S ARRIVAL ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 31, FLAG POLES WERE ERECTED SO THE TANZANIAN FLAG COULD FLY ALONGSIDE THE MOZAMBIQUE AND FRELIMO FLAGS. BANNERS WERE STRUNG UP THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY IN PORTUGUESE, SWAHILI AND ENGLISH HAILING THE VISITING LEADER, TANU AND THE TANZANIAN PEOPLE. ON SATURDAY, A HALF-DAY FOR MOST OFFICES, THE GPRM EXCUSED CIVIL SERVANTS AND ADVISED PRIVATE INDUSTRY TO DO THE SAME. THEY DID. THE GOVT PROVIDED BUSES TO TRANSPORT PEOPLE TO THE AIRPORT. THOUSANDS TURNED OUT FOR THE OCCASION, LINING THE AIRPORT AND ROUTE INTO THE

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CITY. EVERYWHERE NYERERE WENT VIA A SIREN-SCREAMING, MOTOR-

CYCLE-ACCOMPANYING MOTORCADE, HE WAS GREETED BY CHEERING, SMILING, WAVING MOZAMBICANS. AN ESTIMATED 75,000 TURNED OUT FOR THE SPEECHES AT MACHAVA STADIUM ON AUG. 31.

2. DURING HIS STAY IN THE CAPITAL, NYERERE AND HIS DELEGATION VISITED INDUSTRIES, THE NEW TANZANIAN EMBASSY, THE LOURENCO MARQUES TRADE FAIR (FACIM), PORT FACILITIES AND OTHER POINTS OF INTEREST. ON SEP 1 THE TWO PRESIDENTS AND THEIR RESPECTIVE DELEGATIONS HELD TALKS TO "STRENGTHEN THE FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES".

3. FROM SEP 3-6 PRESIDENT NYERERE AND MRS. NYERERE ACCOMPANIED BY MARCELINO DOS SANTOS VISITED BEIRA, TETE, NAMPULA, PEMBA, NACALA, MOZAMBIQUE ISLAND, MUEDA, OMAR AND CABO DELGADO. AGAIN THE RECEPTION GIVEN THE TANZANIANS WAS TUMULTUOUS. UPON RETURNING TO L.M., NYERERE AGAIN WAS GREETED BY MACHEL AT THE AIRPORT.

4. MOZAMBIKAN MEDIA GAVE THE VISIT HEAVY COVERAGE. NOTICIAS IN A FRONT PAGE EDITORIAL ON AUG 30 CALLED NYERERE A "FIGHTER FOR LIBERTY THROUGHOUT AFRICA" AND CALLED ON ALL MOZAMBICANS "TO NOT JUST THANK HIM BUT PAY TRIBUTE OF THE TYPE THAT MOZAMBIQUE SHOULD PAY ONLY TO HEROES". COMMENTING ON NYERERE'S SPEECH AT MACHAVA STADIUM, NOTICIAS AGAIN IN A FRONT-PAGE EDITORIAL ON SEP 3 SAID THE VISITING PRESIDENT SHOWED DEEP UNDERSTANDING OF THE LIBERATION STRUGGLE AND SHOULD BE CONSIDERED "ONE OF THE MOST LUCID AND ENLIGHTENED MOZAMBICANS". PHOTOS AND TEXTS OF SPEECHES WERE SPLASHED ON THE FIRST AND SECOND PAGES OF MOZAMBIQUE'S NEWSPAPERS FOR THE DURATION OF THE STATE VISIT.

5. AFTER THE WEDDING ON SEP 7 NYERERE TRAVELED TO THE AIRPORT WHERE PRESIDENT MACHEL, MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE AND CENTRAL COMMITTEES OF FRELIMO, MILITARY COMMANDERS, ALL MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT, PROVINCIAL GOVERNORS, AND THOUSANDS OF ON-LOOKERS ASSEMBLED TO SAY GOODBYE. THE NATIONAL HYMNS WERE PLAYED, THE HONOR GUARD WAS REVIEWED AND A BATTERY SHOT OFF A TWENTY-ONE GUN SALUTE. THAT ISN'T ALL: FOR THE FLIGHT BACK THERE WERE SMOKED SALMON AND CAVIAR, ESPECIALLY ARRANGED FROM SOUTH AFRICA.

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